



SUBJECT: NEW DAM SAFETY REGULATIONS -- 302 CMR 10.00

Dear Dam Owner:

In 2002, the Massachusetts Legislature enacted revisions to the Dam Safety Statute, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 253, §§ 44-50. Those revisions significantly change the responsibilities of dam owners, requiring them to register and inspect dams and to maintain dams in good operating condition.

The legislation also required the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to revise the Dam Safety regulations in order to implement the changes in the statute. DCR has promulgated new regulations, which went into effect on November 4, 2005.

In order to assist all dam owners to comply with the requirements of the statute and regulations, DCR has posted on its web site, <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/pe/damSafety/>, the revised regulations as well as the forms you need to comply.

Enclosed with this letter you will find a Dam Registration Form for each dam you own. As the owner of a dam or dams subject to the statute and regulations, you must within thirty (30) days of receipt of this correspondence complete the enclosed form and submit it to: Office of Dam Safety, Department of Conservation and Recreation, John Augustus Hall, 180 Beaman Street, West Boylston, MA 01583. You must submit with the form a check payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the amount of \$75.00 per dam. Upon review and approval by DCR Office of Dam Safety personnel, DCR will issue a Certificate of Registration. Failure to submit a dam registration form may subject you to penalties of up to \$500 per violation. For continuing violations, each day shall be considered a separate violation.

Owners of dams who do not have internet access, or who have questions as to whether or not a dam is subject to the regulations and the requirement to register, should contact the Office of Dam Safety at (508) 792-7716, ext. 600, to have the required forms mailed or questions answered.

If you believe your dam meets the requirements for agricultural use exclusion, please provide supporting documentation in writing to the Office of Dam Safety at the above address.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in helping ensure safe dam operations throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Burrington
Commissioner

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston MA 02114-2119
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax
www.mass.gov/dcr



Mitt Romney
Governor

Kerry Healey
Lt. Governor

Stephen R. Pritchard, Secretary
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Stephen H. Burrington, Commissioner
Department of Conservation & Recreation



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
Office of Dam Safety (ODS)
DAM REGISTRATION FORM (DRF)

Office of Dam Safety Records

Section I: Please Provide Dam Information

Dam Name _____
Name of impoundment: _____
Location (City/Town): _____
Dam Height (feet): _____
Hazard Potential Rating _____
National Dam ID No. _____

Section II: Please Provide Owner(s) Information

Legal Dam Owner(s) Name(s): _____
Mail address: _____
Town/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Website and Email info.: _____

Section III: Please Provide Registry of Deeds Information

Location of property on which the dam lies: _____
Registry Location (County Name): _____
Registry of Deeds Book No: _____
Registry of Deeds Page No: _____

Section IV: Please Provide Town/City Assessor's Office information

Map No: _____
Section No: _____
Lot No: _____
Record owner(s) and address: _____

Section V: Schedule of fees

The fee for registering each dam with the Office of Dam Safety for the first time is \$75.00

The Commonwealth, its agencies, authorities and political sub-divisions, including municipalities, are exempt from the payment of fees.

Please enclose either a check or money order for \$75.00 (first time registration), made payable to: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Dam Registration Program

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided on this form is correct.

Signature and title of owner: _____ Date: _____

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